

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

USCINCSO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OAS

SUBJECT: OASGA - PRIVATE CONVERSATION, MAY 14

REF: STATE 12012, 11023

USDEL D 6

1. WEDNESDAY MORNING DISCUSSION CENTERED AROUND DRAFT
RESOLUTION ON US TRADE ACT JOINTLY SPONSORED BY VENEZUELA,
ECUADOR, AND PERU. OPERATIVE PORTION OF THE RESOLUTION
WOULD CALL FOR REPORTS ON WAYS IN WHICH THE TRADE
ACT CAN BE USED TO PROMOTE TRADE BETWEEN THE U.S. AND
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LATIN AMERICA.

2. AT SUGGESTION OF URUGUAY THE CHAIR APPOINTED A WORKING GROUP COMPOSED OF BRAZIL, MEXICO, URUGUAY, ECUADOR AND THE US. THE SPONSORS OBJECTED TO THE WORKING GROUP APPROACH, FEARING (WITH SOME JUSTIFICATION) THAT THE RATHER BALANCED MEMBERSHIP ON THE WORKING GROUP MIGHT WATER DOWN THE STRONG TONE OF SOME OF THE LANGUAGE IN THE PREAMBLE, IN ORDER TO MAKE IT ACCEPTABLE TO THE US. (MEXICO AND ARGENTINA HAVE SUBMITTED THEIR OWN RESOLUTIONS TO COMMITTEE II, WHERE ANOTHER WORKING GROUP IS STUDYING THEM.)

3. THE US (ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS) REITERATED OUR WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS THE TRADE ACT EITHER IN COMMITTEE II, OR IN THE PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS, AND POINTED OUT FEATURES IN THE VEP DRAFT WHICH WE FIND OBJECTIONABLE: FOR EXAMPLE, DESCRIPTION OF TRADE ACT AS "COERCIVE" OR IN VIOLATION OF OAS CHARTER WE ALSO INDICATED THAT IT WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE DESIRABLE TO CALL SPECIFICALLY ON THE US TO TAKE PARTICULAR ACTION ON THE TRADE ACT.

4. JAMAICA (THOMPSON) REPEATED THE QUESTION IT HAD DIRECTED TO THE US DELEGATION THE PREVIOUS DAY REGARDING THE POINT AT WHICH THE USG MIGHT DECIDE THAT ACTIONS BY PRODUCER ASSOCIATION HAVE CAUSED SERIOUS DISRUPTION OF THE WORLD ECONOMY AND THUS WARRANT SUSPENSION OF GSP. THE US RESPONDED BY REPEATING OUR OPINION THAT NO PRODUCER ASSOCIATION IN LATIN AMERICA, OTHER THAN OPEC, IS PRESENTLY DISQUALIFIED. US DEL ADDED THAT MAJOR PERMANENT BENEFITS OF THE TRADE ACT ARE EXPECTED TO COME FROM THE LIBERALIZATION OF TRADE RESULTING FROM THE GENEVA MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. KISSINGER

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